**Lab Skills Reflection**

From the labs in this course I have realized that I have a fairly good understanding of biology labs, with the possible exception of dissection. I understand chemistry labs a little bit less, although I have a basic understanding of chemicals, the percent yield and rate of reaction labs would be something I would struggle with, especially in the grade 11 and 12 classes. And physics I realize that I am almost completely lost. Lenses, sound, friction – although I learned about these things in high school, I didn’t take enough university credits in physics to have a good standing with these topics.

The ways that I could improve on this would be to study, reading textbooks, and talking with my fellow teachers. Another strategy I could use would be to sit in on classrooms that teach the higher level sciences, not only to get a better understanding of the science, but also to learn some classroom management techniques for lab work.

As for the tools that are required for the lab, I could become more proficient in the same ways. I could also go back to university and take another science course. This is something I’m strongly considering doing. With the credits I have right now, I can have a first teachable in Science (General), a second in Mathematics, and another second in Science (Biology). I feel that I don’t know enough about Chemistry, but it would not be a course that I could take online, I would have to do it in class. And judging by the amount of work I have right now with two jobs, this course, and coaching swimming – it would be too much. So I plan on taking it in the summer once I’m a full-time “real” teacher.

I know that I learn best by doing and observing. Knowing that, I can learn by observing other teachers and professors in university, I can ask a lot of questions of my peers if I am unsure (something I struggle with because I don’t want to look like an idiot) and last, I can research on the internet. One thing I’ve learned as a new teacher is that YouTube explains pretty much everything you need to know.

I am so excited to be in the secondary world of science. I love being able to teacher just science, and not have to worry about integrating other subjects into one lesson. I do fall into the trap of talking too much. I need to get students up and out of their seats more than I do, and make sure that my class feels comfortable asking questions and making mistakes!